

## Sisters' Department.

### DO YOUR BEST.

BY HELEN HUNT.

From *Home and Country* (New York) for April.

Do your best and be not troubled  
Should some others better do;  
If your work should fail to please you,  
Don't give up, but strive anew.

Do your best, for slighted labor  
Ne'er can satisfaction bring;  
Do it quickly, time is passing,  
You must seize it on the wing.

Many duties lie before you,  
Trials oft your strength shall test;  
But you need not fret or worry  
If you only do your best.

Do your best, get not disheartened.  
Though the task seem hard and long,  
God is ever near to help you,  
He can make the weakest strong.

### CHARACTER.

BY LINNIE WIRTS.

(Paper read at Huntington S. S. C. E.)

Our reputation is what people think we are, but our character is just what we are. Our character cannot be ruined by the untrue words of some enemy but our reputation sometimes can. And unless our character is pure, gold has no value, beauty no charm, and age no reverence. No matter what we may undertake in life, how intelligent we may be, or how competent we may be of accomplishing some wonderful work we can do nothing unless we practice what we teach. The young man who cannot carry on a five minutes conversation without having it stewed with profanity, who practices that filthy and injurious habit of chewing tobacco, who seeks the lowest societies and spends his Sabbaths in the gambling room: And on the other hand the young lady who will drink a glass of wine with a fast young man, who is not at all astonished at the use of profane language by a young man in her presence, and who seeks nothing but low societies, is he or she the one that is chosen first when looking for employment? No indeed. And can they do a work that will have a good influence upon the people? They cannot unless they reform, come and confess Christ and show to the world by their daily walk that they have thrown aside their wicked apparel and put on the garment of honor. But how much more difficult it is for them to do a work that will

have a good influence upon the people than it is for the man or woman, boy or girl that has always lived a moral and virtuous life, whose every day steps have always been taken in the highway of noble aim and earnest works. But then the vilest sinner that ever walked upon earth, if he comes to Christ penitent and in firm faith, believing and asking forgiveness, shall receive even if it is the eleventh hour. Christ in his word has said that "he who cometh at the eleventh hour shall receive as much as the one that cometh at the first hour." But we do not all have a chance for a death-bed repentance. Therefore we should live every moment of our life as if it were our last for we know not how soon God shall bid us to come. We should live not for our self only but should spend our life for others. We should put forth our best efforts to get those who are traveling the broad path of sin to see and leave the wide and dangerous road to ruin. Teach them faith in Jesus, not push them down further by passing them by unrecognized. We must remember that when Christ was here on earth he spent most of his time among the lowly. The servants are not greater than their Lord.

The greatest curse of the nation today is rum. It is sending more souls to hell than any other evil. It wrecks the soul and body and ruins the home. It is far from God's kingdom that a drunkard shall roam.

One great reason that so many today are going the downward road is this: They think there is no harm in committing some terrible crime just so people don't find it out. They never stop to think that God sees all their actions and knows all of their thoughts. They will enter the back door of the saloons fearing that some one knowing them might chance to see them should they enter at the front door. There is where the sad mistake is made. For our Father which is in heaven sees them enter at the back door the same as if it were the front. Sees them in the dark as if it were the light. What are we living for? This world or eternity? This life is just simply a place to prepare for the world to come; this life is hardly a day when compared with eternity: therefore we should live not for this life only but the rewards which will come.

### MRS. BURNETT ON PARENTS.

As the days have gone by when the explosive old comedy father commanded his son or daughter with suitable profanity to enter into a matrimonial alliance upon the spot with the heiress or heir whose fortune he considered a good thing to have in the family, or whose acres he desired to add to his own, so I think the obstinate and unintelligent parent is becoming a belated institution, writes the author of "Little Lord Fauntleroy" in the June *Ladies' Home Journal*. But that these exceptions still exist we all know, and it is to these exceptions I take the liberty of speaking. It was not your child, but you, yourself, who decided that he should bear the burden of life—the helplessness of childhood, the mistakes of inexperienced youth, the disappointments of maturity, the certainty of death—and all these having been forced upon him it is he, and he alone, who should be allowed the right to decide under what circumstances he will endure or make the best and highest of them that he may. Give him all the help his youth needs and your maturity can supply; give him all the love, sympathy and tenderness of your wisest, most unselfish and purely impersonal self. But when this is done, and well done, in the name of justice let him decide, and when he decided, do all you can to encourage him by loving, tender and sympathetic words of advice and encouragement.

### WHEN A WOMAN LOVES.

When a woman loves a man she lives for him, writes Edward W. Bok in "At Home With the Editor" in the February *Ladies' Home Journal*. From the moment she awakens in the morning until she closes her eyes at night a loving wife's thoughts are of her husband. All day she performs her duties with the thought of his pleasure uppermost in her mind, and his image in her heart. Nearly everything she does is with the thought of him. If she puts a dainty touch to a room she instinctively wonders what he will think of it when he comes home. If she buys an article in the shops that he will see, close beside her own preference for it is the thought whether he will like it. when